



PATENT APPLICATION

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Box: DAC

Hideki KOMATSUDA

Group Art Unit: 2881

Application No.: 10/687,770

Examiner: D. Vanore

Filed: October 20, 2003

Docket No.: 105193.05

For: ILLUMINATION SYSTEM AND EXPOSURE APPARATUS AND METHOD

**PETITION TO ACCEPT UNINTENTIONALLY DELAYED
CLAIM FOR PRIORITY UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.55(c)**

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Applicant hereby requests the Patent Office to accept the following delayed Claim for Priority. In particular, Applicant hereby claims the benefit of the filing date of the following prior foreign application filed in the following foreign country, and the priority provided in 35 U.S.C. §119 is hereby claimed:

Application No. 10-260170 filed in Japan on September 14, 1998.

In support of this claim, a certified copy of the original foreign application is filed herewith. In addition, Applicant submits an executed updated Declaration/Power of Attorney in which the above-identified foreign application (as well as the two previously-claimed foreign applications) is identified.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.55(c)(2), Applicant submits the attached check no. 155633 in the amount of \$1,330 in order to cover the surcharge set forth in 37 C.F.R.

§1.17(t).

In addition, in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.55(c)(3), it is hereby stated that the entire delay between the date when the claim for priority was due under 37 C.F.R. §1.55(a)(1) and the date of this claim for priority was unintentional. In particular, Applicant was not aware of Japanese Application No. 10-260170 in connection with the claims of the present application until Applicant reviewed the April 7, 2004 Office Action for the present application in which U.S. Patent No. 6,266,389 (Murayama et al.) was cited. Upon reviewing Murayama et al., Applicant realized that at least some of the claims of the present application could have claimed priority from the priority document of Murayama et al. (i.e., Japanese Application No. 10-260170).

The appropriate Patent Office official is invited to contact Applicant's undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below if there are any questions or if anything further is desired by the Patent Office.

Respectfully submitted,



Mario A. Costantino
Registration No. 33,565

MAC/ccs

Attachments:

Certified Copy of Japanese Application No. 10-260170
Executed Updated Declaration

Date: June 29, 2004

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<p>DEPOSIT ACCOUNT USE AUTHORIZATION Please grant any extension necessary for entry; Charge any fee due to our Deposit Account No. 15-0461</p>
